

Kosovo - Labor Force & Time Use Survey

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Overview

Identification

COUNTRY

Kosovo

EVALUATION TITLE

Labor Force & Time Use Survey

TRANSLATED TITLE

Albanian: MCC Forca e Punes e Kosoves dhe Studmi i Perdorimit te Kohes / Serbian: MCC Kosovska radna snaga i studija koriscenja vremena / Turkish: MM Kosova Isgucu ve Zaman Kullanimi Calismasi

EVALUATION TYPE

Large-scale labor force and time use survey

ID NUMBER

DDI-MCC-KOS-LFTUS-2017-v03

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION

Anonymized dataset for public distribution

Overview

ABSTRACT

The MCC Kosovo LFTUS is designed to answer nine research questions. The first five were identified in the RFQ, whereas the remaining four were added after MCC held additional stakeholder workshops in Pristina.

1. What is the true level of employment (formal and informal), underemployment or vulnerable employment, and unemployment, disaggregated by gender and district? How much time have the un- or under-employed spent looking for a job? Are they an entrepreneur?
2. Is there a relationship between field of study and having employment? How many people are employed in the field that they studied? Are there any correlations between certain fields of study or location and unemployment?
3. For people not looking for jobs, why are they not looking?
4. What are people doing with their time? Especially, what are women or the unemployed doing with their time? How much time is spent on child care and elder care? How much time is spent commuting?
5. How does receiving remittances and/or the ability to work abroad impact labor market decisions?
6. How do attitudes about women's place in family and society influence women's participation in the labor market?
7. How is women's engagement in productive activities (like starting a business) related to ownership and ability to control assets/access to credit?
8. Have discriminatory practices in hiring or while employed, or perceptions that there might be such practices, discouraged women from seeking jobs?
9. What are the factors that inhibit entrepreneurship, especially for women vs. men, and lead to the low levels of entrepreneurial activity for men and/or women?

The research team administered a nationally and regionally representative household survey to answer these nine questions. A stratified two-stage probability sampling plan was used, with primary sampling units as census enumeration areas and

secondary sampling units as households. The survey was cross-sectional, with data collection occurring over a 16-week period between March and August of 2017.

An overview of findings is as follows:

With 41.1% of the working age population employed at the time of the survey, Kosovo compares poorly with other countries in the region as well as comparably-sized economies in the world. The economic situation, however, is worse than the aggregate statistic suggests. Almost half of Kosovo's population is economically inactive, one in five households receives a significant amount of its income from remittances, and the economy is largely dependent on the public sector, which supports one out of four jobs. Involuntary underemployment is endemic, with 78.9% of part-time workers reporting an inability to find full-time labor, and vulnerable employment (self-employed with no employees and unpaid family workers) accounting for nearly one third of total jobs. Furthermore, while rural and urban areas have broadly comparable employment rates at the national level, 27.8% of employed persons in rural areas reported being unpaid family workers. Lastly, Kosovo employment is largely characterized by low-quality jobs; 30.2% of jobs were in what the ILO labels elementary occupations, followed by services and sales workers (13.1%), with few technicians and associate professionals.

A high proportion of unemployed individuals, one-third, are characterized by long term unemployment (duration of unemployment being more than 12 months), with an average unemployment duration of 18.8 months. Overall, poor labor market conditions are most commonly reported as reasons for unemployment, though there is a strong gendered dynamic to this phenomenon.

Entrepreneurship is limited (8.5% participation rate) and heavily dependent on personal resources and savings for start-up capital. Unsurprisingly, the biggest obstacle to business growth is identified as lack of financial means, which is evident from the fact that most business are started with personal resources.

Across all labor market metrics, female participation is much lower than that of males. Females are half as likely to be employed, twice as likely to be inactive, one fourth as likely to be entrepreneurs, 227% more likely to report being unpaid family workers, and, according to time use data, invest almost five more hours a day performing household and family care than men. Whether due to cultural or economic factors, females also wield much less decision-making power within the household. Males dominated decision-making power over household expenditures, were more likely to own every type of household asset, and were fourteen times more likely to be the sole decision maker for undertaking household debt. Although youth represent a valuable economic asset, with an employment rate of only 27.7%, their potential remains underutilized. This is particularly the case for young females, for whom only one in six is employed.

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Other (Performance Evaluation)

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Individuals

KIND OF DATA

Sample survey data [ssd]

TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Other		

KEYWORDS

Labor force, Time use, Kosovo, Household survey, employment, entrepreneurship

Coverage

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

National and regional coverage.

UNIVERSE

Individuals above the age of 15 living in households in urban or rural Kosovo.

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
Social Impact Inc.	

FUNDING

Name	Abbreviation	Role
Millennium Challenge Corporation	MCC	

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
Millennium Challenge Corporation	MCC		Review of Metadata

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2017-12-14

DDI DOCUMENT VERSION

Version 1.0 (December 2017)

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI-MCC-KOS-LFTUS-2017-v03

MCC Compact and Program

COMPACT OR THRESHOLD

Kosovo Threshold

PROGRAM

The MCC Kosovo LFTUS is a nationally and regionally representative labor force and time use study implemented in 8,575 households across all seven regions of Kosovo.

MCC SECTOR

Other (Other)

PROGRAM LOGIC

The MCC Kosovo LFTUS is a research study and not an evaluation and thus does not have a program logic.

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

The Household Roster was administered with one person in the household (the head of household or the most knowledgeable member) and collected employment data on all members above the age of 15 belonging to the household. The Extended Interview was administered with one randomly selected male and one randomly selected female in the household, who were non-students aged 18-74 years.

Sampling

Study Population

Individuals above the age of 15 living in households in urban or rural Kosovo.

Sampling Procedure

The primary sampling unit (PSU) for the purpose of this survey is the group of geographic Enumeration Areas (EAs) as defined by the 2011 Population and Housing Census. SI calculated the regional sample size required for each of the primary indicators and picked the most conservative sample size of 122 EAs and 1,220 households per region for a total national sample size of 854 EAs and 8,540 households.

This study employs a multi-stage stratified cluster randomized sampling methodology to arrive at a representative sample for each of Kosovo's seven regions. Sample size was calculated for each region and then the EAs were stratified in accordance with the proportion of households in the region that are urban/rural. 10 households were then selected within each EA using simple random sampling. All individuals in the households above the age of 15 were surveyed. In addition, an Extended Interview was conducted with one male and one female to in order to collect data on entrepreneurship and gender norms.

Enumeration Areas (EAs) - There are 4,626 EAs in Kosovo and data for the sampling frame already existed at the Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS). The study team worked with KAS to randomly select the 854 EAs in accordance with the study's power calculations.

Households - The sampling frame of households within EAs was constructed through a household listing exercise. The October 2016 Design Trip revealed that household-level details within EAs have not been updated since the 2011 Population and Housing Census. A rural EA household listing was done in 2014 for the Agricultural Census, however urban EAs were excluded, as was the region of North Mitrovica. To ensure the household listing is up to date and selection methods are consistent across regions, our data collection partner, IDRA conducted a new household listing exercise in each of the selected enumerations areas prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

The SI team worked with the data collection firm to develop an abridged "quick count" listing instrument to meet the primary needs of facilitating simple random sampling of households while maximizing efficiency and limiting demands on respondents. Household listings were conducted by teams of two to four enumerators per EA using electronic tablets. EA maps were secured from KAS so that geographic boundaries of the listing exercise were clearly delineated. For the purpose of this study, a household was defined as a single person or group of persons (related or unrelated) who share in household expenses spent on providing the household members with food and other essential items for living. Members of the group may pool their incomes to a greater or lesser extent. Shares in household expenses include benefiting from expenses (e.g., children or persons with no income) as well as contributing to expenses. For each household fitting this definition, enumerators registered one geo-tag and completed a short questionnaire recording all households that resided within a single dwelling or structure. With a full updated list and map of households in selected EAs, the study team then used Stata to carry out simple random sampling to select households within the EAs.

To calculate the required sample per region, the research team used the 2015 Kosovo Agency of Statistics (KAS) Labor Force Survey to (a) determine prevalence rates for key indicators of interest including unemployment, entrepreneurship, domestic workers, discouraged workers, and tertiary education and (b) calculated intra-cluster correlations on the aforementioned variables to inform design effects.

The research team first determined the number of households to be sampled per cluster which required considering trade-offs between statistical precision and logistical and practical considerations related to field work (including duration and cost). There were considerable diminishing returns to sampling additional households per EA and given the fixed costs associated with sampling additional EAs both in terms of the household listing exercise and travel, SI took a balanced approach and decided to target 10 households per EA.

Deviations from Sample Design

Not applicable.

Response Rate

The response rate for the original 10 households sampled in each Enumeration Area was approximately 75%. A total of 10 Rosters were completed per EA, with the exception of 3 EAs in which 10 rosters could not be completed. This was due to the fact that these EAs were populated with a small number of total households (many families lived abroad), meaning there were not enough replacement respondents to interview.

Weighting

To make sure that the findings from sample data was nationally representative, household and person (or individual) level weights were constructed for each household and its respective household members, which included all members above the age of 15.

The construction of household and person weights was based on the sampling strategy, which used a two-stage stratified cluster sampling model. The sampling strategy followed a probability proportional to size approach to first select clusters (or EAs) from within each stratum (or region), and then randomly select 10 households from each sampled EA in the second stage. Given this sampling strategy, the household weight was calculated as the product of the reciprocals of the sampling fractions employed in each stage of selection of the number of sample households. In other words, weight was calculated as the reciprocal of the product of probability of selection at every stage.

First, a sampling fraction, was created for the total number of urban/rural households in the sampled EAs, as share of the total number of urban/rural households in that region. Next, per the study's research design, a sampling fraction, was created in order to calculate the share of the ten sampled households for each sampled EA among the total number of households in that EA.

Person weight was calculated by adjusting the household weight, by the number of household members (above the age of 15), in the respective households. In addition, person weights were adjusted for extended interview non-response among males (which caused our sample to have a higher proportion of females compared to males). To achieve equal weights for any given male or female extended interview, the respective weight of the male or female respondent was adjusted based on the response rate such that was the realized proportion and was the expected proportion of males or females, respectively.

Questionnaires

Overview

The MCC Kosovo LFTUS is composed of two questionnaires, which were informed by the Eurostat Methodology for conducting labor force and time use surveys, the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor, and USAID/C-Change Compendium of Gender Scales.

The Household Roster captured the labor force status of all members of the household above the age of 15.

The Extended Interview captured detailed information on access to productive capital, household decision-making, time use, and gender attitudes among survey respondents.

The questionnaires were developed in English and translated into Albanian, Serbian, and Turkish. After an initial review, the questionnaires were back-translated to English and the new versions were compared with the original English version. Differences in translation were reviewed and resolved.

All questionnaires and modules are provided as external resources.

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2017-03-31	2017-08-04	N/A

Data Collection Notes

Prior to data collection, a household listing exercise was conducted in February of 2017. Enumerator training, which included the selection of 64 final data collection interviewers and a pretest of the survey, took place between March 12, 2017 and March 31, 2017. Each of the 32 enumerator teams consisted of 2 interviewers: one male and one female, so that surveys could be conducted in a gender-segregated manner in order to reduce potential bias. Data collection took place over a period of just over four months between March 31, 2017 and August 4, 2017. With a few exceptions, data collection took place every day throughout the fieldwork period.

Both the Household Roster and Extended Interview took an average of 30 minutes to complete. Interviews were conducted in Albanian, Serbian, or Turkish, depending on the mother tongue of the respondent. Following the completion of data collection in an Enumeration Area, back checks were conducted either by phone or in-person for a subset of interviews for each enumerator.

Eight representatives from the local data collection firm acted as supervisors, and conducted interview accompaniments, co-enumerations, and unannounced spot checks during field work. Two Data Quality Assurance and Monitoring Specialists oversaw enumeration and communicated issues to the SI headquarters team as they arose in the field.

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All questionnaires and modules are provided as external resources.

Data Collectors

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation
IDRA sh.p.k. Research and Consulting	IDRA	

Supervision

Interviewing was conducted by 32 enumerator teams, which were comprised of one male and one female. The field teams were constructed so there was one supervisor for every 8 enumerators. Supervisors were required to be in the field with the enumerators on a regular basis and occasionally conduct random, unannounced spot checks to ensure that enumerators were showing up for fieldwork, following the correct tracking protocols, and administering surveys properly. The two Data Quality Assurance and Monitoring Specialists (DQAMs) were responsible for general oversight of data collection and reporting any issues to the management team at SI headquarters. The Project Manager and Project Assistant conducted regular quality checks on incoming data and monitored field work, taking necessary action to resolve any issues reported by IDRA or the DQAMs.

Data Processing

Data Editing

During data cleaning, the datasets were checked for errors and completeness and were successfully merged. SI conducted structural checking of the Stata data files. During the cleaning process, unique IDs and variables for integer IDs were generated, duplicates were dropped, and the data file was re-shaped from wide to long format. Because range, skip, and logic checks were programmed in to the electronic version of the survey, no cleaning related to these items was necessary following the conclusion of data collection.

In addition to SI's cleaning tasks, IDRA also performed duties related to scrubbing the data, including dropping duplicates, verifying and cleaning up outliers (both during and following data collection), coding open-ended survey responses, and double-entering time use data in order to ensure accuracy of activities.

Other Processing

Through the use of SurveyCTO, an electronic data collection software that enabled the use of computer-assisted personal interviewing in the field, data was instantly uploaded to the server. Range and skip checks as well as pre-defined data quality monitoring tools were programmed in to the tablet program itself. The only module that mandated manual data entry was the Extended Interview's Time Use Diary, which was completed on paper and the enumerators entered pre-defined Eurostat codes for each activity. All paper time use diaries were double-entered by IDRA staff and any discrepancies were reconciled.

Data Appraisal

Estimates of Sampling Error

Not applicable.